

Message Text

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10

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-09 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-14 USIA-12

ACDA-19 GAC-01 IO-12 T-03 MC-02 OMB-01 IGA-02 RSR-01

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R 190620 Z MAR 73

FM AMCONSUL MADRAS

TO AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

SECSTATE WASHDC 2117

INFO AMCONSUL BOMBAY

AMCONSUL CALCUTTA

AMCONSUL ISLAMABAD

C O N F I D E N T I A L MADRAS 246

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, PFOR, IN, PK

SUBJECT: MILITARY SALES TO PAKISTAN: MYSORE GOVERNOR

1. SUMMARY: GOVERNOR SUKHADIA EVINced RESTRAINED CON-
CERN ABOUT QUOTE NEW ARMS AID UNQUOTE, BUT AGREED
IT POSED NO THREAT TO INDIA' S SECURITY. END SUMMARY

2. DURING A MARCH 16 PRIVATE EXCHANGE IN BANGALORE,
GOVERNOR MOHANLAL SUKHADIA (PREVIOUSLY LONG TIME CHIEF
MINISTER OF RAJASTAN), RAISED QUESTION OF NEW U. S.
QUOTE ARMS AID UNQUOTE TO PAKISTAN. I TOOK ISSUE WITH
USE OF WORD QUOTE AID UNQUOTE IN THIS CONTEXT AND WE
DISCUSSED ISSUE AT CONSIDERABLE LENGTH. BY END OF
EXCHANGE, GOVERNOR HAD EXPRESSED IN CONFIDENCE THE VIEWS
SUMMARIZED BELOW:

A. INDIA DOES NOT CAMPAIGN AGAINST MILITARY SALES TO
PAKISTAN BY FRANCE, CHINA OR OTHERS THAN THE U. S. A., BE-
CAUSE SUCH PROTESTS WOULD HAVE NO EFFECT.

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B. PRESIDENT NIXON WAS ABSOLUTELY CORRECT IN SAYING THAT THE MILITARY SUPPLIES WE HAD NOW DECIDED TO SELL TO PAKISTAN POSED NO THREAT TO INDIA'S SECURITY.

C. REAL DIFFICULTY WAS PSYCHOLOGICAL/ POLITICAL. THE PRIME MINISTER WAS PREPARING TO MOVE AHEAD ON THE IMPROVEMENT OF OUR BILATERAL RELATIONS; NOW THE PRO- SOVIET LOBBY HAS BEEN PROVIDED MORE AMMUNITION. BUT THE AMBASSADOR'S TALK WITH MRS. GANDHI (ABOUT WHICH WE BOTH HAD THEN SEEN ONLY PRESS REPORTS) MAY HAVE CLEARED THE AIR. THE GOVERNOR HOPED SO.

3. I LEFT WITH THE GOVERNOR A COPY OF USIS- FURNISHED EXCERPTS FROM ASSISTANT SECRETARY SISCO'S SOUTH ASIAN POLICY STATEMENT BEFORE THE HOUSE FOREIGN AFFAIRS SUB- COMMITTEE MARCH 12. AS I DEPARTED, THE GOVERNOR BEGAN TO READ IT.

4. NOTE. GOVERNOR SUKHADIA WAS THE ONLY PERSON AMONG THE HALF DOZEN ON WHOM I PAID OFFICIAL CALLS IN BANGALORE, TO RAISE MILITARY SALES QUESTION.
PALMER

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*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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